

OUR COMMUNITY COMMITMENT TO YOUTH*

Hampton is committed to becoming a community in which the well-being of children is of primary importance and whose policies and programs treat young people as the foundation of our city's future.

Commitment #1 APPRECIATION OF DIVERSITY

All young people in Hampton are entitled to be free from bias or discrimination regardless of their race, ethnicity, culture, gender, religion, disability, or any other factor which creates a perception of difference. They deserve an equal opportunity to learn, succeed, and contribute to a community which reflects their diversity and to be brought up in a spirit of understanding, tolerance, and friendship.

Commitment #2 CARE AND NUTURING

All young people in Hampton are entitled to grow up with their basic needs met by loving and caring adults. They deserve to live in a stable home in which family members give them guidance and role modeling, and in a community that values them and supports their family. If their family is unable to provide basic support for them, they must be able to receive it from the community.

Commitment #3 SAFETY

All young people in Hampton are entitled to grow up free from violence, abuse, and the devastation of alcohol and other drugs. They deserve to live in a community where they feel safe in their home, school, and neighborhood.

Commitment #4 HEALTH

All young people in Hampton, from birth through their teen years, are entitled to the opportunity of a healthy development: physically, mentally, emotionally, socially, and spiritually. They deserve to be free from hunger and preventable disease, to receive comprehensive preventive health care, to have early diagnosis of any disabilities, and to receive information as they mature which promotes a healthy lifestyle.

Commitment #5 EDUCATION

All young people in Hampton are entitled to a high quality education in their home, school, and community that prepares them for the future. They must have opportunities for learning which develop their abilities, equip them to assume their roles and responsibilities in the community, and prepare them for a lifetime of learning.

Commitment #6 PARTNERSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY

All young people in Hampton are entitled to be seen, heard, and respected as citizens of the community. They deserve to be prepared, active participants – based on their level of maturity – in community service, government, public policy, or other decision making which affects their lives and their well-being.

**Adopted by City Council as part of the Action Plan of the
Hampton Coalition for Youth, February, 1993*